

REMARKS

In reply to the Office Action mailed December 15, 2004, Applicants amended claims 1 and 20, cancelled claims 2 and 25, and added new claims 26-29. Claims 1, 3-24, and 26-29 are pending and under examination. Please consider the following remarks.

Claims 1, 5-8, 15, 17, 22, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe. Claim 1 has been amended to further recite that the pressure control chamber further comprises an overflow chamber at a level corresponding to the level of water in the riser that is between the heater and the outlet. Watanabe does not describe or suggest an appliance for the preparation of hot drinks having such a pressure control chamber, nor is Watanabe relied on for such a teaching. Applicants therefore submit that amended claim 1 and those claims depending from claim 1 are patentable and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 13, 16, and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe. Each of claims 13, 16, and 18-21 depend from claim 1, which require that the pressure control chamber further comprises an overflow chamber at a level corresponding to the level of water in the riser that is between the heater and the outlet. Therefore, for at least the reasons above, Applicants submit that the pending claims are patentable over Watanabe and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

New claims 26-29 include all of the limitations of claim 1. Claim 26 further incorporates the limitations of claim 3. Claim 27 further incorporates the limitations of claim 4. Claim 28 further incorporates the limitations of claim 9. And, claim 29 further incorporates the limitations of claim 24. Each of claims 3, 4, 9, and 24 were indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants therefore submit that new independent claims 26-29 are allowable.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is requested.

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Enclosed is a \$600 check for excess claim fees. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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